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Bicycle Excursion No. 2.



CITY HISTORY CLUB.



McGOWAN'S PASS.



- I. McGowan's Pass.
- II. Fort Fish.
- III. Block House No. 1.



ROUTE.

Belt Line cars (fare for wheels, 15 cents) to Barrow, Hudson, Eighth Avenue, Central Park; or

Belt Line to Rivington, Chrystie, Second Avenue, 20th Street, First Avenue, 26th Street, Madison Avenue, 79th Street to Central Park; or on

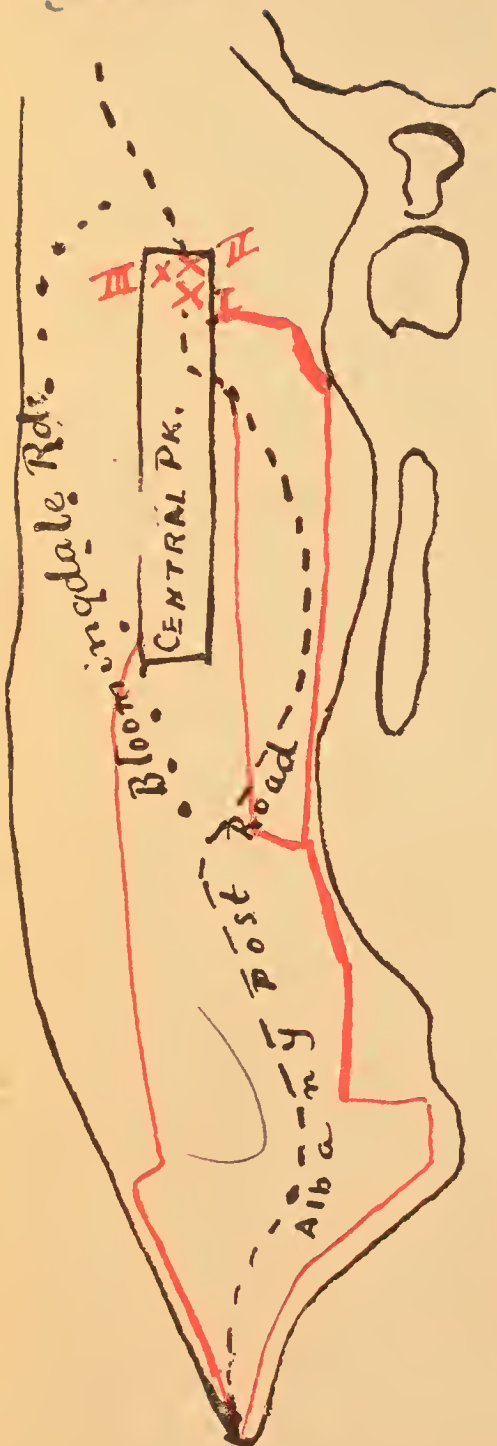
First Avenue to 104th Street, to Central Park.



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Excursion no 5



THE STORY OF MCGOWAN'S PASS.

The British had just landed at East 34th Street (September 15, 1776), and the American army was in full retreat toward Harlem Heights.

The homestead of Daniel McGowan was almost deserted at the time, Daniel himself being in the American army. His son Andrew, a boy of twelve, had remained at home, and was helping with the work of the farm, when the Hessians came hurrying up the road in search of Washington's army.

They compelled Andrew to join them, and ordered him to guide them to the American camp. Within an hour they might have overtaken the patriot army; but, quickly seizing this chance to help his countrymen, the boy gaily led the troops across country toward the North River in a different direction from that in which he knew the Americans had retreated.

While the Hessians were struggling over the hills and swamps of lower Riverside Park, Washington's army arrived in safety at their fortifications, and on the following day were enabled to repulse the British in the brilliant battle of Harlem Heights.

Thus did a boy of twelve save the army of his country from destruction.

In the War of 1812 Fort Fish was built just above McGowan's Pass; and even to-day one can see some remains of the earthwork and two old cannon on the heights south of Harlem Mere.

To the west—nearly opposite the Seventh Avenue Gate—may still be seen a block-house of the War of 1812.

McGowan's Pass is justly named to commemorate a deed of such quick wit and valuable service. Let every boy growing up to-day in Greater New York see in what way he can best serve his splendid city.

(OVER.)

FRANK BERGEN KELLEY.

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